

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 1 5

the
Victoria German School

Back to School Info



Welcome Back

The end of the summer is upon us and we are gearing up for the 2015/16 VGS school year. We hope you have had a wonderful summer. Please take a look through the Newsletter and write down any important dates or events you would like to attend.

Save the Date

Please see page 3 for the Adult classes' start dates

Tuesday Classes

Sept. 15th, 2015

Classes will be on the 2nd Floor, 'A' wing of the Clearihue Bldg. starting at 3:45pm & 4:30pm (more Info on Page 5)

Saturday Classes

Sept. 12th, 2015

Classes will be on the 2nd Floor, 'A' wing of the Clearihue Bldg. starting at 9:30 am.

AGM

October 2015

Come shape the school as you want it to be. We are looking for new board members. 10 am to 12 noon.

Fall Term

Parent/Teacher Meeting

When: October 3rd & 6th

Where: In the classroom

Why: To give the parents some ideas on how to support their children's learning

Kaffee & Kuchen

When: Sept 12th, Oct 3rd & Nov 7th

Where: In the Hallway of 'A' wing, 2nd floor

Why: To foster our community

Emergency Drill

When: Sept 26th & 29th

Why: Just in case



Special Thanks to:

Ute Mueller & Angela Winter for the wonderful photographs from our end of year ceremony on June 9th, 2015

Duplo & Toy Alert

Do you have Duplo or toys that you no longer need or use? Well, VGS Spielgruppe could most definitely use it. Please email us at info@victoriagermanschool.org and we will gladly take it.

First Day of School

The first day of school will only be 1 & ½ hours. Saturday classes will be from **9:30am - 11:00am on Sept. 12th**.

Tuesday classes will be from **3:45pm – 5:15pm** for Grundstufe 2/3 and Mittelstufe & from **4:30pm to 5:45pm** for the A2, DSD1 and DSD2 **on Sept. 15th**.

End of Year Ceremony, June 9th, 2015





West Shore Community Centre Classes

Satellite classes at the Juan de Fuca Recreation Centre

Starting in September, the Victoria German School will be offering 4 classes at the Juan de Fuca Recreation Centre. We are partnering with the centre and registration will go through them. <http://www.westshorerecreation.ca/facilities/juan-de-fuca-recreation-centre/>

Registration will start in August. The classes VGS will be offering are:

Beginner 1 German – Adult

No prior knowledge of German is required. Beginner 1 introduces the German language. Learn the basics of pronunciation and grammar with variety of classroom activities covering reading, speaking, writing and listening. The pace of the class is suited to all abilities.

Wednesday 4:00 to 5:30pm Oct 7-Dec 16

Beginner 2 German – Adult

The class continues on where Beginner left off. Some basic German ability is needed to join this class.

Wednesday 5:30 to 7:00pm Oct 7-Dec 16

German Kids Club

6-9 Years

Kid's Club will be entirely in German. The course is activity focused. There will be a variety of classroom activities from puppetry to arts and crafts. The pace of the class is suited to all abilities.

Thursday 4:00 to 5:30pm Sep 24-Nov 26

Intermediate German – Adult

Thursday 5:30pm to 7:00pm Oct 8-Dec 10

The students practice speaking, reading and writing German in a dynamic and fun classroom setting. Students develop their communication skills while learning interesting and useful things about German speaking countries.



FALL Adult Classes

The **Victoria German School** will once again be offering our popular adult classes. We now have our Beginner 1 course available on Tuesday afternoon from 5:30pm, starting **Sept. 29th** as well as on Saturday mornings, starting **Sept. 26th**.

Spread the word. Check out

www.victoriagermanschool.org for more details.

Volunteering for Events for the 2015/16 School Year & Fundraising Committee



VGS is looking for volunteers for events for the 2015/16 school year. If you would like to help make the events become a reality, please contact us at info@victoriagermanschool.org

Events for the 2015/16 school year –

Laternenfest, November 2015

Weihnachtsfest, December 12th, 2015

Osterfest, March 12th, 2016

Sommerfest, May 28th, 2016

We will also be having Saturday Kaffee & Kuchen on the following dates – September 12th, October 3rd, November 7th, January 9th, February 13th, April 2nd and May 7th

We would also like to have Kaffee & Kuchen on a Tuesday. If any parent would be interested in taking part, please let us know.

WE welcome and encourage members to help with the set up and take down of Kaffee und Kuchen.

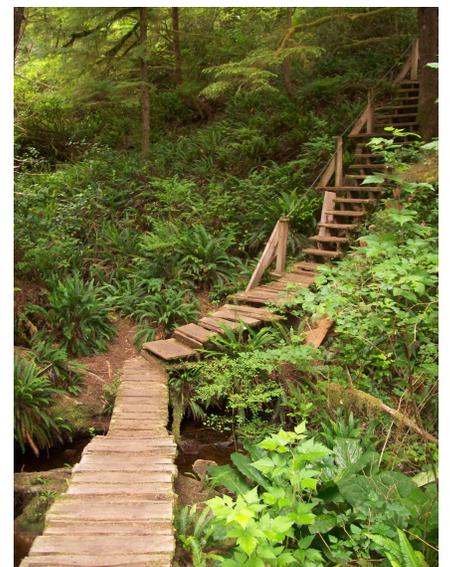
Calling for New Board Members

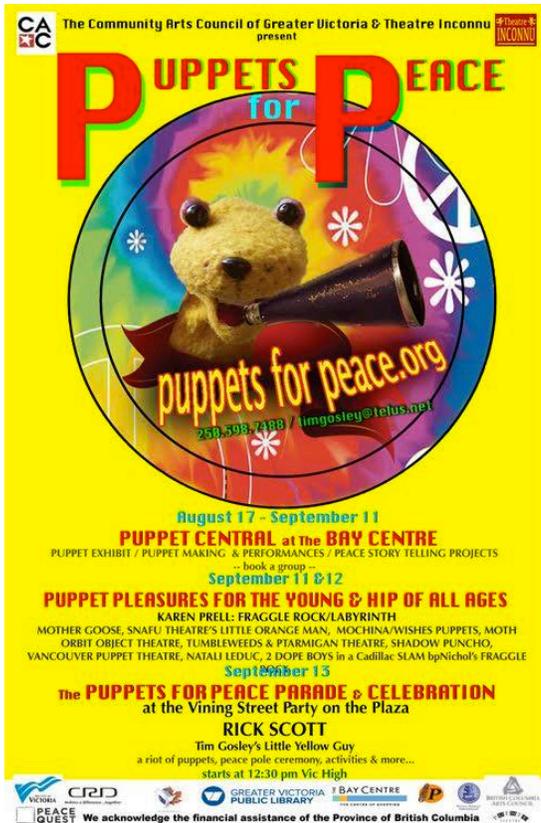
VGS needs new board members. We are looking for a **Treasurer**. We are a non-for-profit school run by a volunteer board and as such must have 3 executives on the board to remain operational. Please contact info@victoriagermanschool.org if you would like to come on board. We will voting in our new Treasurer at the AGM in October.

Treasurer duties:

The Treasurer is part of the Executive Board. The Treasurer manages the finances and administrates fiscal matters of the organization. He/she provides the annual budget to the board for member's approval as well as ensuring development and board review of financial policies and procedures.

We would like to thank
Tanja Weber Hemerling
for all her hard work
in the
2014/15 school year!





Puppets for Peace Parade

Come join us on **SUNDAY September 13th**, the **United Nations International Day Of Peace**.

There will be a puppet parade from Vic High.

Check out www.puppetsforpeace.org

Make a puppet at one of the workshops at

Puppet Central in the **Bay Centre**.

WHEN: Thursday, August 17th to September 11th

WHERE: At the Bay Centre, 3rd floor

WHY: To make a puppet for the Peace Parade. For materials and supplies we recommend a donation of your choosing.



FUNDRAISING

We are always looking for ideas. If you would like to join the fundraising committee, please let us know!

We will continue some fundraisers. However we have eliminated the fundraising levy.

BOTTLE DEPOT! www.bottledepot.ca Before you deposit your recyclables just tell them it is for the Victoria German School.



SOAP EXCHANGE! www.victoriasoapexchange.com Just mention our name and we get a percentage of your purchase.

THRIFTYS SMILE CARD - Come pick one up at the registration desk, or use the one from previous years



FALL Adult Classes at UVic

The University of Victoria has been chosen, as one of a select few post-secondary institutions in North America (and the only one in Canada), to receive a fully funded DAAD instructor. Each year UVIC will host an instructor from Germany. Our first DAAD instructor, Anja Rockel, will be teaching for us during the 2015-2016 academic year and will be offering two lower-level German language courses and two upper-level courses.

GMST 401 Popular Culture (taught in German)

Sep 09, 2015 - Dec 04, 2015



**University
of Victoria**

GMST 410: Special Topics: German Children's Literature (taught in German)

Jan 04, 2016 - Apr 04, 2016

Both classes are geared for advanced German language students. UVIC is excited and grateful to have been chosen by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) to receive a DAAD instructor.

A CHANGE IN TIME for some of the Tuesday classes

Due to renovations in various parts of UVic, the Clearihue Bldg has not as many rooms available to us at the times we would like. From September to December there are 3 classes that will start later. They are the A2, DSD1 and DSD2 classes. The classrooms will also be located on a different floor and in a different wing, but remain in the Clearihue Bldg. Fortunately, we will be back to our regular schedule starting in January 2016. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause and we will be contacting the students and their families with more details shortly.

THE IMPORTANCE of continuity from year to year

Learning a language does take a long time. Students cannot begin a language in high school and be expected to use it for real-life purposes any more than they can be expected



to take two years of beginning mathematics and be prepared to be engineers. But time is not the only important factor. Student engagement is also very important. Students need to carry out meaningful & purpose driven tasks that allow them to use language as a tool. Being motivated to understanding others and communicating their own ideas is the key. The importance of conversing in German with parents, grandparents, relatives and peers cannot be over-emphasized. Such interaction provides students with

opportunities to gain cultural understanding and skills in knowing how and what to say to whom. The family support surrounding the child is just as important as coming to class.



A BIG THANK YOU to
the parents who helped make the
Kunstmarkt so much fun.
&
to the parents who have already
volunteered for the events in 2015/16.
If you would like to help out, contact us at
info@victoriagermanschool.org



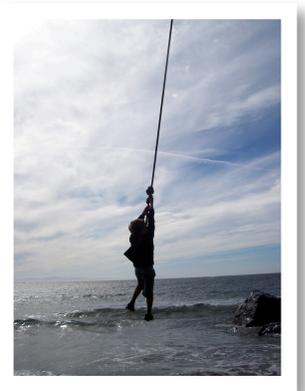
Bis Bald!

Victoria German School

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Don't leave us hanging!

In order for us to be able to offer the
courses that we do, we need to know
as soon as possible whether a student
will be committing to a class or not. It
makes the planning and organizing
much easier.



Please let us know if:

You wish to be taken off our mailing list.
info@victoriagermanschool.org